

P. Dryopteris (L.) Fée, *Filix fragilis* (L.) Underw., *Woodsia Ilvensis* (L.) R. Br., *Dennstaedtia punctilobula* (Michx.) Moore, *Matteuccia Struthiopteris* (L.) Todaro, and *Onoclea sensibilis* L.

South of the Lakes no additional species are known, unless an unverified report of *Adiantum pedatum* L. should prove correct. The Maiden-hair is one of the greatest rarities in Nova Scotia, hence the scepticism. The most promising district in the south-east is believed to be still unexplored by a botanist.

Woodwardia Virginica (L.) J. E. Smith, *Asplenium Trichomanes* L., *Dryopteris fragrans* (L.) Schott, *D. Bootii* (Tuckerm.) Underw., and *Woodsia obtusa* (Spreng.) Torr., all found in Nova Scotia, though rare, have not yet been collected in Cape Breton, in spite of the fact that two of them reach the western side of the Strait.

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THE TYPE-LOCALITY OF ARENARIA BREVIFOLIA

BY ROLAND M. HARPER

Arenaria brevifolia,* "the rarest of our eastern American Arenarias," † was for many years known only from the granite region of Middle Georgia, particularly on and around Stone Mountain, where it was collected by Canby in 1869 and by several other botanists in later years. (It has since been found in Rowan County, North Carolina, by Heller and Small, in Lee County, Alabama, by Professor Earle, and in DeKalb County, Alabama, by Dr. Mohr. At the last-named station it grew on Carboniferous sandstone, but at all the others its habitat is on granite.) It was natural to suppose, therefore, that the original specimens were collected by Nuttall somewhere in Middle Georgia, though not on Stone Mountain, which seems to have been unknown in Nuttall's time.

* *Arenaria brevifolia* Nutt. ; T. & G. Fl. N. A. 1 : 180. 1838.

Alsine brevifolia Chapm. Fl. S. States, 49. 1860.

Alsineopsis brevifolia Small, Fl. S. E. States, 420. 1903.

† Small, Bull. Torrey Club, 24 : 332. 1897.

The only information given as to the geographical distribution of this species in the original description is "On rocks, Georgia," and the label of the type specimen in the Torrey Herbarium bears the same data. But a couple of years ago I came across a passage in the "Letters of Asa Gray" (p. 652) which throws more light on the subject, and this led me to investigate the matter. In a letter to Mr. Canby, dated May 12, 1875, and referring to a visit to Stone Mountain a few weeks before, Dr. Gray says: "The moment I set eyes on the *Arenaria* of Stone Mountain, I said, Ho! here is *A. brevifolia* Nuttall, of which I had only a single stalk in herbarium. Comparing now, I was right, and Nuttall says his specimen is from Tattnall County (which is strange, that being in southeast Georgia)."

Tattnall County is a typical pine-barren county, far down in the coastal plain (its center being about 100 miles from the granite region and 60 miles from the coast), and its natural features are altogether different from those of the granite region. It seemed therefore most likely that there must be some mistake about the report of *Arenaria brevifolia* from this county. But my curiosity was aroused, and having occasion to spend a few days in Tattnall County in the summer of 1903, I determined to do what I could toward verifying or disproving this report. On making inquiry for rock outcrops (which are not generally known to exist in the pine-barrens), I was soon directed to some, on the right bank of the Ohoopce River, about four miles from Reidsville. At this point there are some ledges jutting out from the hillsides close to the river, and near them a few flat outcrops of the same rock, covering several square rods. This rock is a rather fine-grained conglomerate, or indurated sand and clay, known to geologists as Altamaha Grit, and believed to be of Upper Oligocene age. The ledges have little vegetation on them except mosses and lichens, but the flat rocks, strange to say, support a flora strikingly similar to that of flat granite outcrops in Middle Georgia.

On reaching one of these flat rocks I got down on all fours, and almost immediately found the object of my search: *Arenaria brevifolia*. At that season of the year (June 24) the plants were

scarcely visible a yard away, being long past flowering. The stems are almost capillary and only two or three inches tall, the leaves had completely disappeared, and the minute capsules had already discharged their seeds. Consequently I did not preserve specimens at that time, but about ten months later (April 26, 1904) I revisited the spot and found the plant in better condition (no. 2157), though even then the flowers were gone and the



Locality for *Arenaria brevifolia*, in Tattnall County. Rock outcrop in foreground, dry pine-barrens in background. June 24, 1903.

capsules over-ripe. In that latitude it probably flowers in March, instead of in April as in Middle Georgia (or June in the mountains of Alabama, according to Dr. Mohr).

My locality, if not identical with Nuttall's, must be very near it. Rock outcrops are by no means common in Southeast Georgia, and all I have seen in Tattnall County are within five miles of each other. Nuttall, in describing a supposed new species of *Sarracenia* (*S. calcolata*),* states that he found it "particularly within a few miles of the new court house" in Tattnall County, and it is highly probable that he got the *Arenaria* at about the same time † and place. The *Sarracenia* (now referred to

* Trans. Am. Phil. Soc. 4: 49-51. *pl. 1.* 1834?

† Doubtless somewhere between 1822 and 1830, a period which seems to be left blank by Nuttall's biographers.

S. psittacina Mx.), it may be remarked, is now growing in the immediate vicinity of the *Arcuaria* locality. The "new court house" mentioned by Nuttall is still standing in Reidsville, though it has recently been moved aside and superseded by a modern brick structure.

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SHORTER NOTES

A NEW POLYPOROID GENUS FROM SOUTH AMERICA. — An interesting pore-fungus was collected a few years ago in Colombia by Mr. C. F. Baker. It is the only species of Polyporaceae known to me which occurs parasitic on living leaves. I have erected upon it the new genus *Phylloporia*, a description of which follows :

Phylloporia gen. nov.

Hymenophore small, tough, annual, attached by the vertex to the lower surface of living leaves; context brown, fibrous, tubes thin-walled, mouths polygonal; spores globose, smooth, pale ferruginous.

The distinguishing feature of this genus is its habit of growing upon living leaves. It is based upon the following species :

Phylloporia parasitica sp. nov.

Pileus circular, thin, attached by its vertex to the under surface of living leaves, 5–8 mm. in diameter, 0.2–1 mm. thick; surface minutely tomentose, fulvous, margin thin, entire, ochraceous to ferruginous; context membranaceous, fibrous, ferruginous; tubes 0.5 mm. or less in length, 3–7 to a millimeter, isabelline, polygonal, irregular, edges thin, entire to coarsely dentate; spores globose, smooth, very pale ferruginous, 3–4 μ , hyphae colorous.

Collected by C. F. Baker near Bonda, Colombia, Nov. 16, 1898, on living leaves of *Bignonia* (?). Numerous sporophores in various stages of development are found on the lower surface of the leaf, usually attached to a vein. This species is the only one of its family in America that occurs on living leaves.